



DIVISION OF MINES
BOARD OF COAL MINING EXAMINERS
CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
<http://www.dmme.virginia.gov/dm/default.htm>

FIRST CLASS MINE FOREMAN – (COAL) Kentucky Reciprocal Agreement

PHOTO ID REQUIRED

PRIOR TO SCHEDULING EXAM MUST PROVIDE LETTER OF GOOD STANDING FROM RECIPROCATING STATE

Article 3 of the Coal Mine Safety Laws of Virginia establishes requirements for certification of coal mine workers. The certification requirements are included in §45.1-161.24 through §45.1-161.41 in which the Board of Coal Mining Examiners is established for the purpose of administering the certification program. The Board has promulgated certification regulations 4 VAC 25-20, which set the minimum standards and procedures required for Virginia coal miner examinations and certifications.

CERTIFICATION CLASSIFICATION: *First Class Mine Foreman (Coal) - KENTUCKY RECIPROCITY

Renewal must be in accordance with the BCME continuing education requirement.

THIS CERTIFICATION AUTHORIZES THE FIRST CLASS MINE FOREMAN - UG TO:

- Perform all duties required by State and Federal laws and codes as certified mine foreman/examiner
- Record findings on pre-shift, on-shift and weekly examinations

NOTE:

- This certification may be used to perform pre/shift – on/shift examinations at shaft/slope locations.
- Hold a General Miner Certification as part of this certification (A card will be issued)

APPLICATION/EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS:

- Application (BCME-1) and \$40.00 fee 5 working days prior to examination
 - **Note:** Classes are limited to 20 people and tend to fill quickly. Application fees are due no later than 5 working days prior to the examination, but this will not guarantee that an opening will be available.
- Current first aid training (MSHA 5000-23 Annual Retraining or New Miner Inexperienced Training acceptable)
- Copy of current Kentucky foreman card
- Letter of “good standing” from state of Kentucky
- **Reciprocity can only be used one time to achieve certification**

EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS: A score of 85% on all elements of the examination.

Applicants must pass all elements of the First Class Mine Foreman or Surface Foreman reciprocity examination in order for Virginia to reciprocity Kentucky foreman certification. If the examination is failed, then the applicant may submit fee for retake of the examination 10 working days after the notification letter has been sent. If the applicant does not pass on the second try, the entire foreman examination (either First Class Mine Foreman or Surface Foreman) must be taken under the regular examination process for foreman certification.

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ELEMENTS OF EXAM**NUMBER OF QUESTIONS****First Class Mine Foreman**

- Mining Laws (ML) (UG)
- Records (UG)
Pre-shift/On-shift (PO)
Weekly Examination (WE)
- Gas Detection (GD)

50

RECOMMENDED REFERENCE/STUDY MATERIALS:**First Class Mine Foreman**

- Mining Laws of Virginia (\$5.50)
- First Class Mine Foreman Study Guide (\$30.00)

The above mentioned study materials are available at the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy's Big Stone Gap Office, Customer Assistance Center (276) 523-8233 and Lebanon Field Office (276) 415-9650.

***4 hours of biannual continuing education required to update this certification.**